



# California on My Honor: Civics Institute for Teachers

*A residential institute for K–12 teachers  
California State University San Marcos*

*August 8–10, 2007*

*October 26, 2007, follow-up*

**Participate** this summer in an intensive civics institute focused on the judicial branch of government with K–12 teachers, college professors, judges, and attorneys. Learn new and exciting ways to bring your civics-related social science program to life through the use of simulations, the visual and performing arts, and language arts.

**Collaborate** with colleagues from throughout California to develop curriculum designed to increase the understanding of civics, civic engagement, and responsibility. Connect California content standards from several disciplines with social science standards.

**Gather** new strategies and resource materials—including Web tools—to take back to your classroom.

**This professional development opportunity is offered free of charge to 25 competitively selected teachers. California on My Honor will include:**

- ★ \$400 stipend for teachers
- ★ Transportation, lodging, and meals
- ★ New resources
- ★ Time to develop curriculum
- ★ Collaboration with colleagues, judges, and attorneys
- ★ Visits to the Superior Court of California, County of San Diego; the Judicial Council of California; and the California Supreme Court in San Francisco
- ★ Meetings in the Kellogg Library, Cal State San Marcos and the Earl Warren Building in San Francisco
- ★ Two units for those who register through CSUSM Extended Studies

*Sponsored by Judicial Council of California, Administrative Office of the Courts, and Cal State San Marcos*



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**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND APPLICATION MATERIALS, CONTACT:**

*Dr. Fran Chadwick, Cal State San Marcos, via email* [fchadwic@csusm.edu](mailto:fchadwic@csusm.edu)

## California on My Honor: *Civics Institute for Teachers*

K–12 teachers *with at least three years of classroom experience* will be considered after completing the following:

1. Application form (contact information below)
2. Signature endorsement from site administrator
3. Personal interview with director

### APPLICATION FORM

**Name:**

**Address:**

**Home telephone:**

**E-mail address:**

**County/district:**

**School:**

**Grade level:**

**Demographics of school population:**

**Years of teaching:**

**Prior experience with law-related education programs? If yes, please describe.**

**Please complete your statement of interest, in 200 words or less, on the next page.**

**Note:** Institute participation is limited to 25 teachers. Please contact Dr. Fran Chadwick at California State University San Marcos, fchadwic@csusm.edu with questions or send application form. The competitive selection process will continue on a rolling basis. New applications will be reviewed until the institute is full. Applicants will be contacted by the director upon receipt of application.

California State University San Marcos  
College of Education  
333 Twin Oaks Valley Road  
San Marcos, California 92096  
Attn: Fran Chadwick, Ed.D.



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**Statement of Interest**

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**Applicant signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Administrator signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



**Judicial Council of California**  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

455 Golden Gate Avenue • San Francisco, California 94102-3688  
Telephone 415-865-4200 • Fax 415-865-4205 • TDD 415-865-4272

RONALD M. GEORGE  
*Chief Justice of California*  
*Chair of the Judicial Council*

WILLIAM C. VICKREY  
*Administrative Director of the Courts*

RONALD G. OVERHOLT  
*Chief Deputy Director*

April 25, 2007

Dear California Teacher:

The judicial branch of California endeavors to increase public understanding of the courts and the role that courts play in a democratic society. Local superior courts, appellate courts, and the state Supreme Court participate in numerous outreach and education programs that bring groups of citizens and students to the courts. We also impart Web site and written information about the courts and provide volunteers and staff for self-help centers in courthouses, in addition to other efforts to engage the public.

Despite the diligent efforts of schools and our courts, scientific research about perceptions of our courts has shown that public knowledge about the judicial branch of government generally, and about our courts in particular, needs improvement. As part of our overall approach to improve citizen knowledge, court staff are working in collaboration with California State University San Marcos, College of Education to offer an in-depth training institute this summer for interested California K–12 teachers.

The purpose of this training is to:

- Review the current K–12 curriculum standards related to civics education;
- Increase knowledge of the role of courts and the operations of courts;
- Experience models of existing K–12 court and law-related education programs, including a visit to the local courthouse and meeting with judges;
- Refresh knowledge of principles of effective lesson plan design and impact evaluation;
- Learn about exciting ways to use technology in teaching about civics;
- Prepare unique lesson plans to use in participants' classrooms, tailored to individual classrooms and communities; and
- Report back to institute leaders and participants at a later date after implementation and evaluation of the lesson plan.

California K-12 Teachers Interested in Civics

April 25, 2007

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I invite you to apply for this competitive selection process to become a 2007 institute participant. The specific application information is attached.

Thank you for the important work you do serving your students and communities throughout California.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronald M. George". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ronald" being the most prominent.

RONALD M. GEORGE  
Chief Justice of California and  
Chair of the Judicial Council

RMG/DB/JL/cp  
Attachment